

Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 FRB-03 STR-04

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R 031405Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1409

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PO CZ

SUBJECT: BILAK TO HEAD CPCZ DELEGATION TO PORTUGUESE PARTY MEETING

1. PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR COLACO TOLD US NOV 1 THAT A MEETING OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE NOV 11 IN LISBON. VASIL BILAK, CPCZ CC SECRETARY AND HARDLINER IN CHARGE OF IDEOLOGY AND INTER-PARTY RELATIONS, WILL HEAD DELEGATION FROM THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY.

2. COMMENT: IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH DCM, PORTUGUESE DCM CRESPO HAS INDICATED THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS ARE INCREASINGLY DIS-ILLUSIONED WITH THE INTERNAL POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL-- PARTICULARLY THE ASCENDANCY OF SOARES' SOCIALISTS OVER THE
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PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS. CRESPO NOTES THAT DURING HEYDAY OF

PORTUGUESE COMMUNISM IN 1974-75, PRAGUE ENTERTAINED CONSIDERABLE
EXPECTATIONS OF STRENGTHENED RELATIONS IN LISBON,
BUT IN SOME RESPECTS--TRADE, FOR EXAMPLE--CRESPO BELIEVES GOC--
PORTUGUESE RELATIONS HAVE ACTUALLY DIPPED BELOW LEVEL THAT
EXISTED BEFORE ESTABLISHMENT OF BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
IN 1974. (ACTUALLY, GOC FIGURES SHOW 1975 TWO-WAY TRADE OF
U.S. DOLLARS 5.8 MILLION, WHICH IS SLIGHTLY BELOW TOTAL FOR
1971 BUT AT ABOUT THE LEVEL OF THE AVERAGE FOR PERIOD 1970-75 AND
DOLLARS TWO MILLION WORSET YEAR
IN THAT PERIOD--1973.)
BYRNE

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